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# UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 84, No. 46

WKU Student Affairs

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS  
HERALD

Thursday, April 16, 2009  
Volume 84, Number 46  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

[www.wkuherald.com](http://www.wkuherald.com)

All smiles,  
Smiley wins  
SGA election

MARY BARCZAK  
[news@chherald.com](mailto:news@chherald.com)

Students voted for a new face over a familiar one in the Student Government Association election.

Danville junior Kevin Smiley was elected SGA president on Thursday.

He beat current President Kayla Shelton, a junior from Gallatin, Tenn.

A crowd of more than 60 loud and bubbly supporters crowded downstairs in the Downing University Center to hear the election results.

Smiley, current legislative research committee head, received 894 votes, according to the election results.

Shelton received 673 votes, according to the election results.

Smiley said he felt good about his win and is looking forward to being president.

“Let’s roll up our sleeves and do what we can do about the tuition increase and the \$30 fee,” he said.

Smiley said he’s looking forward to getting out and meeting people.

Shelton made herself unavailable for comment following the announcement.

Elizabethtown senior Kendrick Bryan won the race for executive vice president over his contender,

Louisville sophomore Ben Lineweaver, director of academic and student affairs.

Bryan won by 161 votes, according to the election results.

He said that he feels wonderful about his win and that it’s time SGA got some new faces.

Bryan said the first thing he wants to do as executive vice president is encourage students to attend International Night on Friday because he supports campus activities.

“I think it’s good for SGA to have a cohesive relationship with them,” he said.

Lineweaver still plans on staying involved with SGA and protesting back-door tuition increases.

“It was a close race,” he said.

“The better man won.”

Auburn junior Justin Thurman was elected administrative vice president over his contender, Louisville junior Brittany-Ann Wick.

Thurman, currently a senator, won by 174 votes, according to the election results.

He said the first thing he plans to work on is getting in touch with student organizations to let them know about his goals for organizational aid next year.

Wick, currently chief of staff, said she felt good despite her loss to Thurman.

“I have faith that Justin is qualified for the job and he will get things done,” she said.

She said she would still like to be involved with SGA if she can next year, possibly through the student senate or by appointment on the executive board.

Chief Justice Corey Bewley announced that all of the students that ran for student senate were voted in.

Twenty-six students ran for 28 senate seats in the election, according to election results.

Bewley said that Lexington freshman VaShae Swope, a current SGA senator, was left off of the ballot because of a technical error on TopNet.

He said because the elections were uncontested and because she voted for herself, Swope also won a senate seat.

Amendments to the SGA constitution were approved with 980 votes, according to the election results.



## DREAMS IN DISTRESS

Part three of a five part series on how Kentucky is coping with the recession



MEG SHAY/HERALD

**James Neighbors lies** on a real bed for the first time in weeks after a local church bought him a motel room for the evening. After dropping out of Western without getting his degree and having his PC repair company go out of business, Neighbors now occasionally relies on charitable handouts in his home-less state of life.

## ‘I won’t give up’

## Former student struggles with homelessness

MEG SHAY  
[news@chherald.com](mailto:news@chherald.com)



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on this story online at

**CHHERALD.COM**

And, continue to follow  
the Herald’s coverage  
of economic issues  
throughout April.

James Neighbors, 37, can be spotted making his rounds walking around the square in downtown Bowling Green on temperature-permitting nights, carrying his belongings in a backpack as he tries to keep going until the sun rises.

Although Neighbors is homeless, the Bowling Green native takes care not to exude a stereotypical image by having poor hygiene or staking out sleep on visible public property.

He keeps his church-donated T-shirts tucked into his khakis under his leather jacket as he walks the square.

The homeless lifestyle isn’t one that Neighbors has always been accustomed to. He grew up in a middle class family and is a military veteran and a former Western student.

SEE **I WON’T GIVE UP**, PAGE 7



MEG SHAY/HERALD

**According to Neighbors**, after utilizing all 10 of his allotted nights to sleep at the Salvation Army, he wasn’t able to find a job in that time period as stipulated by the shelter in order to continue getting assistance and may not return for a year. Neighbors rigorously applies for jobs nearly every day, but has yet to get any responses.

## Universities feel pain of recession

CHRISTINA HOWERTON  
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The impact of failing national banks is trickling down to college students.

Higher education funding has taken a hit that started with banks lending too much money, Economics Department Chair William Davis said.

Some banks failed because they gave too many mortgage loans that borrowers couldn’t pay back.

Davis said banks are cautious about lending, which causes people to spend carefully.

When people buy less, demand for goods decreases and businesses lay off workers, he said. State revenues decrease when people save money.

Revenue decreases created state budget shortfalls, Davis said. Those states had to cut appropriations to government agencies, including state universities.

William Zumeta, a professor of public affairs and education at the University of Washington, who researches higher education funding, said some universities might cap enrollment to keep tuition raises minimal.

An enrollment cap could hurt

graduation rates and cause fewer class sessions to be offered, he said.

Zumeta said he thinks a long term trend will be for students to go to community college for the first one or two years of college with plans to transfer. But a lot of them may not actually transfer.

Nearly all state budgets have been affected by the recession, Zumeta said.

President Gary Ransdell said Kentucky won’t hit the low that other states have because the state’s economy wasn’t up as much as other states.

“What goes up pretty high usually takes a pretty big dive when the pendulum swings,” he said.

But Ransdell said he’s expecting more budget cuts next year.

Legislators cut 3 percent last year and 2 percent this year from Kentucky’s higher education appropriation.

John Hayek, interim vice president for finance at the Council on Postsecondary Education, said higher education funding is typically cut because universities have tuition as a source of revenue while primary and secondary education only get state money, he said.

SEE **PAIN**, PAGE 9

## Clubs suffer from money problems

MARY BARCZAK  
[news@chherald.com](mailto:news@chherald.com)

Shariecia Hamilton, president of Sister 2 Sister, planned her club’s spring retreat around her paycheck so she could help fund it.

The Louisville sophomore works as a secretary in Potter Hall.

She said she took her job so she could have some extra money, but it helped her to pay for club needs starting last semester.

“If I had to give my whole paycheck to cover needs then I would pay it,” she said. “Because no one else is going to.”

Sister 2 Sister is a group for minority women on campus that helps them to familiarize themselves with college through bonding and community service, Hamilton said.

One reason money was tight was the group stopped asking the Office of Diversity Programs for money to fund some programs this year because of budget cuts, she said.

The retreat will be at Barren River State Park this year, Hamilton said.

The group is trying to get funding for the trip in addition to possibly charging members \$5 to \$10 for food and lodging, but Hamilton will have to

pay for anything extra.

An economic recession is affecting the membership and funding of many organizations on college campuses.

Charley Pride, director of student activities and organizations, said all student organizations except the Campus Activities Board and the Student Government Association are self-funded.

CAB and SGA are funded by student fees, he said.

Some organizations may have received money from university departments in the past, but departments are tightening spending because of cuts, Pride said.

Jeff Butterfield, coordinator of the Latin American Student Association, said his club isn’t very active this year because of rising costs and lack of attendance.

“We went from having about 75 people to less than a dozen now,” Butterfield said.

The world recession and the rising cost of tuition has affected students’ ability to travel abroad, Butterfield said.

“The economy has definitely had an impact on it,” he said.

SEE **SUFFER**, PAGE 9



2

DAY

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

5						2
		1		6	5	
3	4				7	8
		3	7		1	4
		6			9	
		8	6		4	2
8	5				6	7
		9		5	1	
1						9

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

70

Number of days straight that the longest Monopoly game in history lasted.

99

Number of hours that the longest Monopoly game in a bath tub lasted.

1933

Year that the first Monopoly game was sold.

Source: [www.hasbro.com](http://www.hasbro.com)

► CORRECTIONS

Due to a Herald error Kenny Perry was incorrectly identified in a front page headline regarding a story about Perry's play at the Masters golf tournament on April 13.

Perry attended Western, but didn't graduate.

Due to a Herald error a statement from Kayla Shelton was incorrect in a page 10 article of the April 14 issue.

Shelton wants to use money

from alcohol and cigarette tax increases already in effect to help fund higher education.

The Herald regrets the errors.

*The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at [editor@cherald.com](mailto:editor@cherald.com).*

► CRIME REPORT

Report

◆ Benjamin Chumley, McCormack Hall, reported on April 13 that his iPod and Nintendo 64 controller were stolen from his dorm room. The value of the theft was \$390.

a thousand words

in the shadow of the Hill

ELIO PAJARES

This semester Herald photojournalists find interesting stories on the edges of campus.



Melissa Blankenship from Nashville, 29, is an International Campus minister at the Baptist Campus Ministry. She was a student at Western from 1997 to 2002. She graduated with a religious studies major. Her faith in Jesus means believing in something that she cannot see, believing in something not tangible but that is real.

Blankenship works with international students providing a minister who meets their physical, spiritual and emotional needs.

"Many internationals, especially from Asia, don't know about who is the Lord that is why there are many missionaries working in China undercover," Blankenship said. "When they approach us you can see that their faces reflect that they have troubles and when they start reading the Bible, praying and hanging out with Christian people, you see a big change, a spiritual change and physical appearance, you see a new creation only possible by God."

Blankenship, usually through conversational English, hospitality, friendship and spiritual conversations, has the opportunities to share about who Jesus is and what he has done for us. She sometimes invites international students to her apartment to learn more about their culture and explain to them more about the Gospel.

"International students need to know that satisfaction comes from knowing who you are, a person of worth, created by a loving God," Blankenship said. "The scripture talks about God's heart from the nations meaning he desires all peoples knows him as savior and Lord and when I was given the opportunity to be involved with God's word of reconciling or bringing the nations into God's family I was excited to join him in that work."

GREAT ESCAPE THEATRES

SHOWTIMES!

**Bowling Green 12**  
323 Great Escape Dr.  
4/17/09 - 4/23/09

MONSTERS VS ALIENS (PG)  
11:45, 1:00, 2:00, 3:25, 4:20, 4:50, 5:35, 6:25, 7:45, 9:55

LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT (R)  
12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50

WATCHMEN (R)  
9:45

TAKEN (PG13)  
12:45, 3:00, 5:05, 7:20, 9:30

12 ROUNDS (PG13)  
12:15, 2:40, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05

1 LOVE YOU MAN (R)  
12:55, 3:20, 6:50, 9:40

ENDS ON 4/22 :  
FAST & FURIOUS (PG13)  
11:50, 1:00, 2:25, 3:30, 5:00  
6:35, 7:30, 9:10, 10:00

OPENS ON 4/23 : EARTH (G)  
12:05, 2:10, 4:25, 6:35, 8:45

DUPPLICITY (PG13)  
12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35

STATE OF PLAY (PG13)  
12:30, 3:15, 6:25, 9:20

17 AGAIN (PG13)  
12:00, 1:05, 2:20, 3:35, 4:40  
6:45, 7:35, 9:00, 9:55

**GREENWOOD 10**  
2625 Scottsville Road  
4/17/09 - 4/23/09

KNOWING (PG13)  
11:45, 1:00, 2:10, 4:50  
6:35, 7:20, 9:50

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG)  
4:30, 9:10

CRANK HIGH VOLTAGE (R)  
12:30, 2:25, 4:45, 7:25, 9:35

ADVENTURELAND (R)  
12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT (PG13)  
12:05, 2:05, 4:15, 7:10, 9:25

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG)  
12:45, 3:05, 5:20, 7:40, 9:45

HANNAH MONTANA THE MOVIE (G)  
11:40, 12:20, 2:00, 2:40, 4:25  
5:10, 6:50, 7:35, 9:15, 9:55

DRAGONBALL: EVOLUTION (PG)  
12:00, 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

OBSERVE AND REPORT (R)  
12:40, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05

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BY FEDERICO GARCIA LORCA

TRANSLATION BY RONA MUNRO

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TOPS & BOTTOMS

- ↑

**TOPS** to eventually getting our tax refunds.
- ↓

**BOTTOMS** to haying to pay taxes.
- ↑

**TOPS** to the Hot Rods' home opener being sold out.
- ↓

**BOTTOMS** to the Hot Rods not being named the Cave Shrimp.
- ↑

**TOPS** to the SGA election being over.
- ↓

**BOTTOMS** to no one voting in the SGA election.

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SUBMISSIONS

The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

1. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 700-800 words.

2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.

3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.

4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.

5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western's employees or of its administration.

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Exercise some crosswalk courtesy

Responsible drivers and pedestrians can make campus safer

The issue: When combined, distracted drivers and nonchalant pedestrians can make the crosswalks on campus an extremely dangerous place.

Our view: Although campus can be extremely crowded, crosswalks will become much safer if both parties recognize their responsibilities and adhere to them while traveling.

It's one of the earliest lessons parents teach their young children.

Right up there with "Don't talk to strangers" and "eat your vegetables" is that adage "Look both ways before you cross the street."

Judging from the way some students cross the street on campus, it appears they missed that crucial piece of parental wisdom.

So on behalf of improving campus safety, the Herald would like to remind everyone of some reasonable crosswalk

procedures.

For the drivers, it's important to realize that hitting pedestrians in the crosswalk isn't a game.

You don't get 1,000 points for each person you flatten.

It's also important to maintain a normal driving speed while cruising around campus.

Not only does it prevent speeding tickets, it just makes sense. After all, saving 30 seconds by going 20 mph over the speed limit isn't going to make that big of a difference.

Furthermore, drivers need to recognize that pedestrians always have the right-of-way, according to Kentucky state law.

That makes it even more important for drivers to be aware of crosswalk locations on campus and not speed up if they see someone crossing.

On the flip side, people in the cross-

walk also have their own set of responsibilities.

First and foremost, students need to cross at the crosswalk.

This seems like a no-brainer, but with bigger crowds it becomes common for people to cross the street wherever they please.

Second, pedestrians need to look both ways before they cross. Remember, it's left, right and then left again.

Students also need to cross quickly when they enter a crosswalk. But that doesn't mean they need to race oncoming cars in their effort to cross the street.

For those who still want to scurry across the street, just remember: cars weigh upwards of 2,000 pounds. You don't.

Most importantly, students just need to pay attention whenever they're close to the road.

Whether talking on their cell phone or listening to their iPod, students too often lose focus and enter the crosswalk haphazardly.

A possible way the university could improve the situation would be to create crossing zones at areas on campus with high pedestrian traffic.

For example, marking the area between the EST traffic light and the adjacent bus stop with caution lights could improve the safety of that crosswalk significantly.

If drivers and pedestrians will accept their responsibilities, the Herald feels campus can become a much safer place for travel.

Just call it a little crosswalk common sense.

*This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member editorial board.*

COMMENTARY

The problem with standardized tests

AARON W. HUGHEY  
Professor  
Department of Counseling and Student Affairs

For several years, educational researchers have noted a direct correlation between socioeconomic status and scores on standardized tests such as the ACT, SAT and GRE. It is well documented that students from more affluent families typically score significantly higher on these tests than do their counterparts from families who are less affluent.

And the relationship is linear; the higher the socioeconomic status of the family, the higher the test scores.

Now there is solid scientific evidence that the brain is physically affected by being raised in poverty. In a study that was published last week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, it was found that the chronic stress experienced from growing up in poverty appears to have a direct impact on the development of the brain. Specifically, children from lower socioeconomic families tend to have underdeveloped working memories as compared to children from families who are doing better financially.

Why is this important?

Obviously, these findings have a number of significant implications. One of the most relevant is related to how we use standardized tests such as the ACT and the GRE in our admissions processes — both at the undergraduate as well as the graduate level. Although we often state that these tests constitute only one component of a larger admissions process, the reality is that they are often the primary criterion by which admission is determined.

Moreover, it is also well documented that several minority groups are still over-represented in the lower socioeconomic classes. Therefore, when we deny admission to students based heavily on their scores on standardized tests, not only are we discriminating against the less affluent, we are also guilty of discriminating, by default, on the basis of race/ethnicity.

Let me be very clear on this point. It is morally and ethically wrong to deny someone admission to college (undergraduate or graduate) based on predictors that are inherently flawed and biased toward more affluent applicants. Any admissions decision that utilizes standardized test scores should also take the socioeconomic status of the applicant equally into account.

So should we discard these tests?

No. But we should definitely marginalize their role in our admissions processes. Other institutions are already

doing this. It would be nice if we were on the leading edge of this movement, instead of waiting to see what other colleges and universities are doing before we consider adjusting our policies to reflect this inevitable trend.

Standardized tests, as they are currently used in our society, have reached the pinnacle of their utility, and I am convinced that our reliance on them will decline in the future as their inherent weaknesses are more clearly understood and publicized. We need to begin to see assessment as a much more comprehensive and inclusive process.

And yes, we need to insure that we admit students who are qualified to be here. But there are better ways of doing this that do not involve what is, in reality, almost an exclusive reliance on standardized tests. The efficiency we achieve from these tests simply does not justify the harm they do to individuals who are negatively affected by their deficiencies.

Standardized tests will probably always have their place. But our irrational belief in what they actually tell us is way out of proportion to their true efficacy. The sooner we acknowledge and accept this, the sooner we can begin to minimize the injustices that they inherently cause.

*This commentary does not represent the opinion of the Herald or the university.*

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M K

CY  
M K

CYAN MEGENTA YELLOW BLACK

CY  
M K





# You can't nix sleep



Pull up a couch, folks, because it's best that you are sitting when you read this. I might put you to sleep.

And chances are, even if I were to tell you that President Gary Ransdell is personally financing a petting zoo on the fourth floor of Downing university Center (which he isn't, though perhaps more people would hang out there if he did), you'd still probably have no trouble taking a siesta.

Because if you're anything like me right now, you're tired. And you're busy. And sleep just doesn't make the list of your top 14,000 things to do, especially if you've got term papers, tests, projects, work and a social life, all of which need your attention and need it now.

If something's going to give, you reason, it isn't going to be your awake time because willingly putting yourself in an unconscious state for several hours would simply not be reasonable when the rest of your life depends on how you do now in college.

Yawning yet?

You're not alone, according to experts at the National Sleep Foundation (yes, there is such a thing), college students are notorious for late nights of studying, partying, talking on the phone and playing to level 1,500 in World of Warcraft. Dr. William C. Dement of Stanford University, a leading researcher on sleep and sleep deprivation, says that in doing such activities through a long period of time—without sleeping in—leads to some-

thing he calls "sleep debt." That is to say, if you require eight hours of sleep each night (most adults require seven to nine), and you're only getting six, over a week's time you will have missed out on 14 hours of rest.

In other words, over the course of one week, you've missed more than a full night's rest.

Last week, like many people at this time of the semester, I was swamped. To make sure that I got my three papers finished and that I prepared myself enough for my tests, I decided that I would wake up at 6 a.m. for a couple of mornings instead of staying up super late.

After two days of this and significant caffeine usage (just short of abuse), I went into a self-induced coma for nine hours and missed a class. I have no shame in saying that it was completely worth it.

And according to the National Sleep Foundation, catching enough Z's means much more than having enough energy to go to class. People who get enough rest are generally happier, less prone to overeating, more productive and easier to get along with.

Though I think the only way for me to get enough sleep is to drop out of school, the NSF did have some good advice. To sleep better, they suggested to exercise regularly (though not in the three hours before bedtime), avoid caffeine and alcohol (we'll see about that), sleep in a dark, cool environment and establish a relaxing pre-sleep routine such as reading or taking a bath.

I can't promise that I'll be following these suggestions, but I'm so tired of being tired that I might have to. And by the yawn I can sense on your face, so might you. Sleep tight! Don't let the bed bugs bite!

## CAMPUS GOVERNMENT

# Regent falls short on office hours



One member of the Student Government Association Executive Cabinet hasn't been on schedule with all of his office hours this semester.

Reagan Gilley, student regent and administrative vice president, has come up short of his 10 required weekly hours five times the semester, according to SGA office hour logs.

He served as few as four hours one week, according to the logs. Other weeks, Gilley spent as many as 16 or 17 hours in the office.

The president and executive vice president must spend at least 12 hours per week in the office and the AVP must spend at least 10 hours per week in the office, according to the SGA constitution.

President Kayla Shelton has fulfilled all of her required office hours so far this semester, serving as many as 40 hours one week, according to the logs.

EVP Skylar Jordan has also met his hour requirements, according to the logs.

Gilley said officers are allowed to make up missing hours, but he tries to keep his schedule somewhat balanced.

"You don't want to spend 50 hours in the office one week and none the next," he said.

Officers use their hours to accomplish different things such as meeting with students and administrators, planning events and working on legislation, Shelton said.

Gilley said he's been spending the majority of his time getting acclimated to being student regent.

He was elected as student regent Feb. 26 after Johnathon Boles, former SGA president and student regent, resigned.

Gilley has been meeting with students and administrators since his election, he said.

He said he tries to stay on top of his duties as both AVP and student regent.

Chief Justice Corey Bewley

said he hasn't received any complaints about officers not meeting their hour quotas.

While the SGA officers post available weekly hours, the times they're actually there can vary.

Jordan and Gilley logged several of their office hours during different times than listed on their official schedules, according to the logs.

Shelton served all of her hours during the times listed on her schedule, according to the documents.

Bewley said there was no ruling stating that office hours could be done at unscheduled times, but the policy was understood.

"So long as they try to be there for as many hours as they are supposed to, that's all we ask of them," Bewley said.

Gilley said he hasn't had much of a problem getting in touch with students who want to meet with him.

"We let our contact information be known," he said.

If a student comes to the office to meet with Gilley during scheduled hours and he isn't there, an SGA member will usually give the student his cell phone number, he said.

"So long as they try to be there for as many hours as they are supposed to, that's all we ask of them."

— Corey Bewley  
Chief Justice

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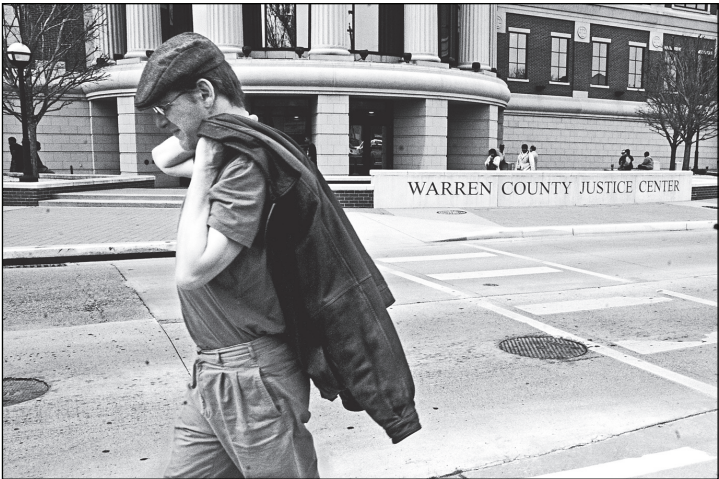
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MEG SHAY/HERALD

(Right) **After having no luck in finding a shelter to sleep in for the evening, Neighbors retreats** to his niche where he covers himself under leaves and his jacket to keep warm until he can find a sleeping bag or tent.

(Top) **After filling out several job applications, Neighbors walks** back to downtown Bowling Green, where he often resides when taking a break from job hunting.

(Above) **Neighbors sits** in his secluded niche downtown that he sleeps in when he has no other options. Although the Bowling Green native's parents maintain a middle-class life in the city, Neighbor's life-long strained relationship with his mother deters him from seeking their help.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The self-proclaimed "computer-geek" studied Computer Science and left school to follow other academic interests in Illinois. He later returned to Bowling Green and created his own PC repair company.

Neighbors ran his company for several years before going out of business. He attributes his loss of clients to the Best Buy Geek Squad, which he tried to work

for. But he said he can't be hired because, despite his qualifications, he doesn't have a degree.

Neighbor's poor relationship with his mother meant he couldn't turn to his parents for help during his financial crisis, he said.

Now Neighbors is facing another battle on his road to find a home—the recession in the US economy.


He walks through Bowling Green applying at bars, high-end restaurants, gas

stations and any other open business doors. He asks managers for an odd job in hopes of paying for a cheap motel room.

"I won't give up, that's just not who I am," he said.

His determined attitude is occasionally rewarded when local churches supply him with clothes or money for a motel room.

"I don't want people feeling sorry for me, but I honestly wouldn't wish my circumstance on anyone," Neighbors said.



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# Back Door Tuition INCREASES



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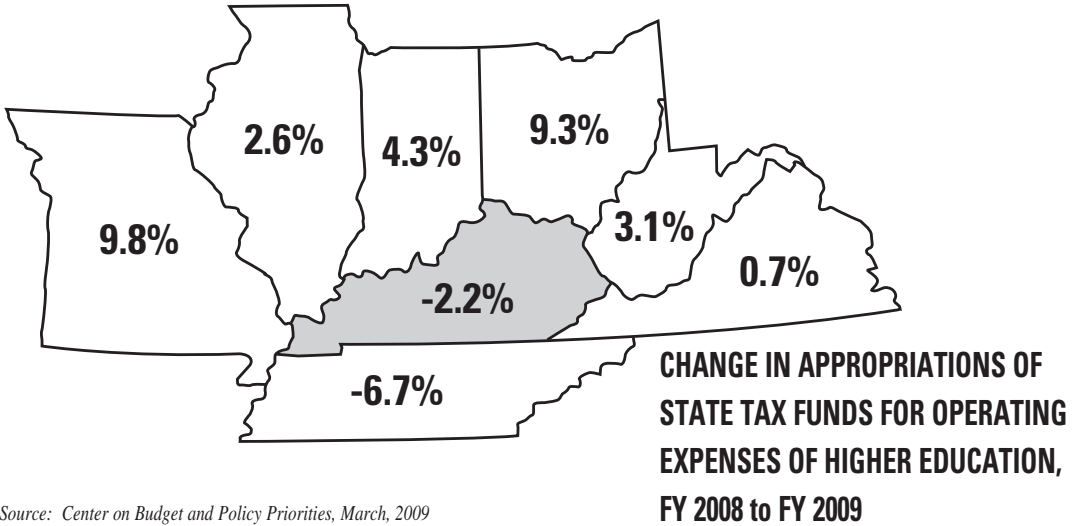
**Join SGA on April 24th outside their Regents meeting to let them know how you feel about Back Door Tuition Increases.**

PROTEST! APRIL 24

PROTEST! APRIL 24

PROTEST! APRIL 24





Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, March, 2009

## PAIN

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Jay Blanton, spokesman for the governor, said the state's budget shortfall was too large to leave any area untouched.

The budget fell short about \$456 million this year.

Blanton said Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear showed higher education is a priority by cutting 2 percent when most other agencies got 4 percent cuts.

Kentucky could use federal stimulus bill money for education, Blanton said. State officials will decide how to use the money in the next several weeks.

Western's proposed budget cut for 2009 will take 4 percent from most divisions at Western.

It will shave about \$9,800 from the Campus Activities Board budget, said Brad Wheeler, budget and resources manager for Student Affairs.

He said the cut will impact the programs CAB hosts, which might take away a program that could impact individual students.

Campus Services and Facilities will take an about \$332,000 cut, Wheeler said. That could affect the repairs the division can do on campus as

well as quality of student life.

"Collectively the impact will be minimal, he said. "And that's what we're trying to do."

Zumeta said states that had successful housing markets are hurting the most from the economic downturn.

"The mighty have fallen," he said. "Those that got the furthest up have fallen."

Florida's economy is based on population growth and a flourishing housing market, said Bill Edmonds, director of communications for the State University System of Florida Board of Governors.

Tax revenue went down about 25 percent during the recession, he said.

"When all that stops it's hard," Edmonds said. "That's the kind of economy that can stop on a dime."

Florida legislators cut about \$173.5 million from their higher education appropriation in 2008, he said.

Edmonds said Florida universities have laid off employees, cut back on operations and eliminated some degree programs because of the cuts.

Though many states are struggling economically, some are looking for different ways to spare universities.

Kathy Love, public information officer for the Missouri Department of Higher Education said Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon decided not to cut higher education funding this year so universities wouldn't raise tuition.

Missouri cut about 17 percent in 2002, so state officials are working to get funding back up, she said.

Scott Holste, spokesman for Nixon, said Nixon wants to keep education affordable in Missouri.

"We've got to have a well-trained work force, and higher education is key for that," he said.

Other state agencies will get more cuts because the higher education appropriation will be the same, Holste said.

Tennessee expects money from the national stimulus bill to make up for the 15 percent expected cut to higher education, said Richard Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

The state was hit hard by the recession because of dependence on sales tax revenue, Zumeta said. Revenue decreases because people are making and buying less.

Universities are planning what they'll cut when stimulus money runs out, Rhoda said.

## SUFFER

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The club is managing through partnering with larger organizations such as Housing and Residence Life, he said.

Butterfield said he thinks the club will continue to exist because Western has a growing international awareness.

"We will keep it there and anticipate a better day," he said.

Sean Sherwood, coordinator of intramural-recreational sports, said the department has been smarter about purchasing equipment and hiring staff this year. He hopes finances won't get worse.

The department is funded through student fees and the student affairs office, he said.

Bowling was cut this year because he didn't want a sport in the intramural line up that students might have to pay for, Sherwood said.

Andrea Ford, adviser of the international club, said the economic crisis hasn't affected the club because members raise most of the money.

"We really don't heavily depend on university funds," she said.

The majority of the club's members are international students, but domestic students also participate, Ford said.

Most of the club's events are free for members unless it's a special trip and space or rental equipment is needed, she said.

Ford said the club applies for organizational aid from SGA each year to help offset costs.

"It's just a boost," she said. "If we don't get it, then it's fine."

Administrative Vice President Reagan Gilley said he was surprised more student organizations didn't apply for org aid because of budget cuts this year.

"I was seriously, seriously taken aback that not more applied," he said.

Last year, 117 groups applied for org aid, according to the 2007-2008 SGA budget.

This year, 60 groups applied, according to the 2008-2009 SGA budget.

He said numbers could be low because some organizations aren't familiar with the recent restructuring of org aid and he doesn't think all faculty members are forwarding information to their clubs.

Sister 2 Sister will receive \$500 from org aid for next year, Hamilton said.

Club members will put the money toward different programs during the year and refreshments during meetings, she said.

Hamilton said she hopes to have a fundraiser next year to raise more money.

Butch Oxendine, executive director of the American Student Government Association, said most student governments get money from student fees through tuition.

He said SGAs are getting more money because of the recession.

More people are going back to school because of the economy, so more people pay student fees, he said.

"I just don't see any evidence of reduced budgets," he said.

Western's SGA President Kayla Shelton said the economy has hurt some of SGA's

initiatives this year.

"It has definitely hurt the student body, and we represent the student body, so that has definitely been our number one priority," she said.

SGA cut \$4,100 from its budget this year because of a proposed 4 percent cut, according to the SGA budget.

Next year's SGA budget will probably be between \$100,000 to \$105,000 because of cuts, Pride said.

If SGA has to take more cuts next year, money will come from executive expenditures, Shelton said.

Rudy Spencer, University of Louisville's SGA president, said in an e-mail that the economy isn't hurting UofL's SGA because its funding comes from a fee students pay directly to SGA.

But the poor economy will probably affect enrollment, which would decrease SGA funding, he said in the e-mail.

Gabe Cronon, Northern Kentucky University's SGA president, said the economy hasn't directly affected the group yet, but he suspects it will soon.

"This next year will be the year that we feel it," he said. "It'll effect students not just in a social way but in financial too."

NKU's SGA will decrease scholarships and grants and do fewer programs next year, Cronon said.

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BOWLING GREEN

# Annual Book Fest offers variety

**STEPHEN MICHAELS**  
news@chherald.com

The voice of Elmo will be heard in Bowling Green on Saturday.

But instead of asking to be tickled, it will be answering questions.

More than 150 authors will speak at this year's Southern Kentucky Book Fest on Saturday at the Sloan Convention Center, according to a Western press release. It's the 11th year the event has taken place.

Kevin Clash, the man behind the Muppet Elmo, will speak at the festival. He has been a puppeteer for "Sesame Street" for more than 25 years, according to the press release.

He tells his story in "My Life as a Furry Red Monster,"

according to the press release.

Western libraries, Warren County libraries and Barnes & Noble Booksellers are partnering together to bring the free literary event and its speakers to Bowling Green, according to the press release.

Tracy Harkins, the community outreach manager for Western's libraries, said she's excited for this year's events and thinks every author is going to spark somebody's interests.

Harkins said this year's event is going to be different from past events because of the variety of authors and the number of authors with ties to Kentucky.

"There will be authors to appeal to children, 'tween' and adult readers," she said.

Harkins said she's proud that the three organizations are partnering together to promote

literacy.

Jill Conner Browne, author of "The Sweet Potato Queens," Ellen Hopkins, a bestselling teen author and Dana Canedy, an author from Kentucky, will also speak at the event, said Natalie Boddeker, the manager at Barnes & Noble.

Browne, a New York Times bestselling author, has written six "Sweet Potato Queen" books, Boddeker said.

Janice Ian, a singer-songwriter, will also be at the event promoting her new autobiography "Society's Child," Boddeker said.

Participating Book Fest authors will be offering several writing sessions at no cost to the public at the Kentucky Writers Conference at South Campus this Friday, according to the press release.

CAMPUS LIFE



JACOB HILL/HERALD

**Stephanie Mattos a junior from Silver Spring, Md., helps** Fisherville sophomore Nicole Nason into her corset before the dress rehearsal of La Casa de Bernarda Alba on Tuesday in Gordon Wilson Hall.

# 'Bernarda Alba' opens tonight

**TABITHA WAGGONER**  
diversions@chherald.com

Locked in a pueblo, a stern mother and her five perspiring virgin daughters sit, all dressed in mourning raiment.

In "The House of Bernarda Alba" by Federico García Lorca, Glasgow senior Caitlin Brock plays a twice-widowed, tyrannical mother determined to keep her daughters in mourning for eight years.

Playing a woman in her 60s has been a challenge for Brock though she said she identifies with certain parts of her character.

"I'm a little obsessive-compulsive about things," Brock said laughing. She said she keeps things inside until she is "even more pissed off."

But Brock doesn't yell or smack people like her character does.

"Alba" is a very dark show,

director Andrea Grapko said.

Themes include tragedy, oppression, tradition, classism, reputation and sexual tension.

"Most of the story is in the subtext, in actions, in dialogue," Brock said.

In one scene, the family maid of 30 years, Ponceia, said "I watch over this family so people won't spit when they pass the door."

Yokley described Ponceia as an aware woman who feels a parental instinct toward the Alba daughters though they aren't her family.

Brock compared the oppression of the daughters to a pot of boiling water with a

lid: eventually it will explode, shooting scalding water everywhere.

Like Brock, Yokley also bears the challenge of playing a woman more than twice her age.

But Ponceia is a different kind of old.

"Labor has aged her much more," Yokley said.

"Alba" is not just about a bunch of women locked up together; it won't be a monotone show, Yokley said.

The play is in the Gordon Wilson Hall Lab Theatre April 16-18 and April 20-21 at 8 p.m. and April 19 at 3 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

If you go

►WHAT: "The House of Bernarda Alba," play

►WHEN: April 16-18 and April 20-21 at 8 p.m. and April 19 at 3 p.m.

►WHERE: Gordon Wilson Hall Lab Theatre

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# How 5 Lies About LOW BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

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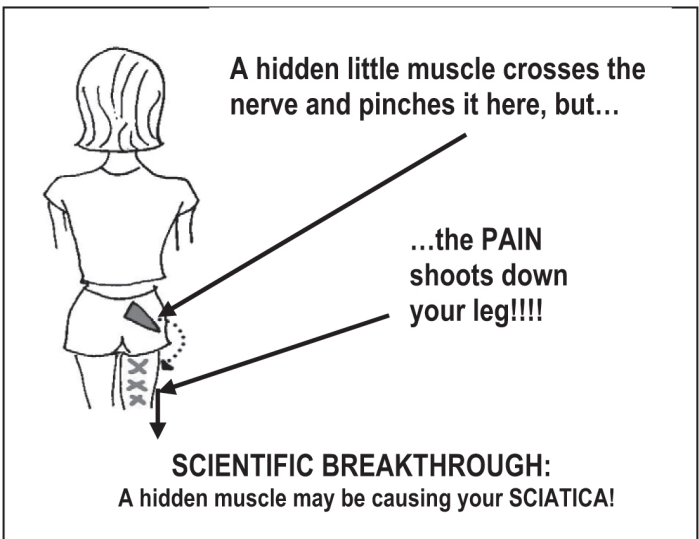
Hi, I'm Dr. Michael Elkins, and if you've got any kind of back, hip or leg pain, your worries may be over in just a few minutes. Why? Because at my **Healthsource Chiropractic™** office, I've discovered what may be the best healing secrets for "bad backs" – EVER!

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I'm so confident we can help your back, I *insist* on giving you a 100%, TRIPLE SATISFACTION PLEDGE a our **Healthsource Chiropractic™** office, I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain:

**MYTH #1: SCIATICA (pain down your leg) is *always* caused by a herniated disc!**

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they *don't* tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you're got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...

The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:



**MYTH #2: Stiffness from ARTHRITIS means you're getting OLD...and it *must* be the**

reason for all your pain and stiffness! Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

**Your STIFFNESS may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!**

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy"?) waved a wand over them, and they're cursed...doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles. It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at myth #3.

**MYTH #3: Your Back is "OUT"!** Sure, that's exactly how it *feels*. But guess what, we've found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but now we know better. New research provides a whole new arsenal of tools—not just a "crack."

You see, there are **7 different reasons** for that painful *locked up* and *stuck* feeling that causes so much misery:

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| -low-grade spasm      | -pelvis torque and tension |
| -imbalance of hips    | -fallen or dropped arches  |
| -stiff vertebra joint | -adhesions in leg muscle   |
| -pinched nerve        |                            |

It's NOT *just* your spine, and it's NOT *just* your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2<sup>nd</sup> stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

I have a herniated disc. After years of physical therapy and nine epidural spine shots they wanted to do surgery. I declined! Whith Chiropractic and Progressive Rehab I am pain free and still working.

Robert H.

It's like having your plumber doing all ...the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

**MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"**

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse!"

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at **HealthSource Chiropractic™**. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors) and muscle physicians (therapists) and together they deliver the absolute best way to help "bad backs"—EVER!! This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:

**MYTH #5: "MUSCLE RELAXANTS" will help your muscles heal!** Good grief, NO!

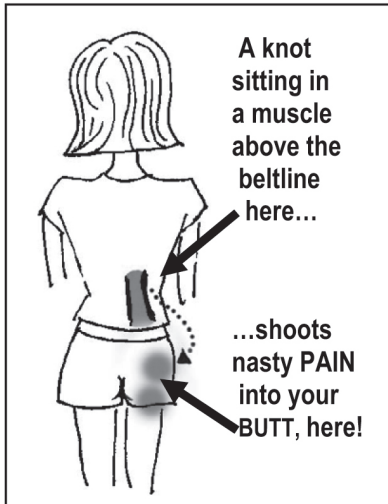
Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time-bomb... you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later and pay "in spades"!

So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted...forever!

Wouldn't you rather:

- ✓ Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?
- ✓ Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?
- ✓ Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?
- ✓ Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

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Bad pain kept me from walking, sleeping or doing anything. Pain pills and two shots in the spine did not help. I was scheduled for surgery. Chiropractic and Progressive Rehab have helped relieve all the pain and gotten me back to dancing, reading, sewing and fishing.

Linda G.

## Does Your Back Seem "Too Old" for Your Own Body?

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And bring this coupon when you come in for your FREE, pledged\*, 19-point "Back Pain Track Down Exam." Now check off what describes you:

- ☐ Tension...always tight across the beltline
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- ☐ Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek
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CAMPUS LIFE

# International night begins tonight

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If you want to expand your cultural knowledge, the next two nights will be full of sounds and scents that will lure you in to indulge your taste buds, and colorful spectacles that will overwhelm your eyes.

Today, Fresh Foods will open at 4:30 p.m. serving a variety of international dishes including curry chicken and Asian barbecue ribs made by executive chef Gill Holts.

“He has the resources based on his experience as a chef and with different types of flavors,” said Dalla Emerson, location manager.

Emerson is hoping to see at least 800 students attend the dinner.

International Night has been

a staple at Western for six years. Friday, Trinity Edwards, an evening program coordinator at Downing University Center, is anticipating a large crowd for the cultural expo on the fourth floor of DUC from 7 to 11 p.m.

The event is spread throughout two days this year so that students can get more out of it, Emerson said.

This is one of the fourth floor activity board’s biggest events, in conjunction with Housing and Residence Life, the Office of International Programs and the Campus Activities Board.

Student musician Lyndsey Whitaker is starting off Friday’s festivities with country music to represent the American culture.

Other performances range from a Japanese karate demonstration to Bluegrass

music and Bollywood dance.

Friday night entails a fashion show of traditional dress from several countries, live music, booths set up by international students and finger foods.

“We picked more of a sophisticated menu for Friday night,” Edwards said about this being the first year the Restaurant and Catering Group will cater the event.

Admission is \$5 with a Western ID and \$7 without. The cost includes all foods and unlimited billiards and bowling.

This is Edwards’ first year being involved in the event. She said it’s one of the programs she has always heard about —there was a unique story each time.

“I hope students can get a friendship out of meeting new people,” she said.

COLUMN

# Thomas hiring is destined for disaster at Florida International



**BACKPAGE  
BANTER**  
Andrew Robinson

Former St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck sent three-foot, seven-inch Eddie Gaedel up to bat in 1951.

Gaedel was walked on four pitches.

Veeck was known for his gimmicks and promotions throughout the baseball world.

He’s also responsible for Disco Demolition Night in 1979.

Veeck died in 1986, therefore making him not responsible for Florida International’s latest publicity move.

No, that would be FIU Athletics Director Pete Garcia.

Garcia hired former New York Knicks coach Isiah Thomas on Wednesday.

Yes, the same Isiah Thomas who led the Knicks straight into the ground, going 23-59 last season.

There’s also the pending sexual harassment suit looming from his time with the Knicks and the incident this past October when officers were called to Thomas’ home after someone reported a man overdosed on sleeping pills.

But Florida International doesn’t seem to mind carrying

Thomas’ baggage.

In an attempt to get some quick publicity for a perennially bottom-barrel basketball team in the Sun Belt Conference they brought Thomas on board.

Garcia got what he wanted.

FIU was talked about by all the national media outlets. The news even led off SportsCenter.

Garcia appears he wanted attention, not what’s best for the student-athletes and 20-year-old kids who will play at Florida International.

Rather than attempting to hire a promising assistant coach or even a former head coach looking to rebound, Garcia made an impulse buy with Thomas.

Actually, he’s not really paying Thomas for his first season. Thomas said on Wednesday he’ll donate his first year’s salary back to Florida International.

Both are looking to improve on recent downward spirals.

There’s no question fans will turn out not only in Miami, Fla., to see what Thomas has to offer but also at opposing arenas.

Western’s 2009-10 schedule is yet to be released, so we don’t know when the Thomas tour will make its stop at Diddle Arena.

The Sun Belt public relations spin machine has probably been working overtime lately. There usually isn’t this much attention on the conference this time of year.

And while Thomas did field a few questions about his future at FIU in a nearly 10-minute interview with ESPN’s Chris McKendry and Andy Katz, the bulk of the questions came about sexual harassment allegations, drug overdose and a possible suicide attempt.

And that’s what Garcia wants?


Maybe here’s the better question. That’s what parents want their kids around when they’re playing collegiate basketball?

Finally, I leave you with this thought — What if Bob Knight would have been hired as Western’s basketball coach?

Now that would be an intriguing matchup.

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# SWEEP

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

Sophomore center fielder Brittney Perry scored off a hit by junior shortstop Brooke Reed, giving the Lady Toppers a 3-2 lead that they wouldn't relinquish.

The Lady Topper pitching staff fared just as well, with seniors Ryan Rogge and Jennifer Kempf picking up both wins. Rogge (18-5) threw a complete game with seven hits, two runs, a walk, and four strikeouts. Kempf's win moved her to 6-7 on the season as she pitched all of the six innings, giving up three hits, no runs, no walks, with five strikeouts.

McCauley said it was good for the Lady Toppers to get away from their normal schedule and play on a Wednesday night.

“It keeps us ready,” McCauley said. “Our approach isn’t any different toward the game, but it keeps us loose and keeps us ready for conference play. It’s better, instead of practice, we see live at-bats. So it’s good for us to stay on top of our game.”

The Lady Toppers will be back on the diamond when they play host to North Texas in a Sun Belt series starting at 1 p.m. Saturday at the WKU Softball Complex.

The Bunnies are Invading the Hill!

# The Hunt for RED EGGS

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FOOTBALL



LANCE BOOTH/HERALD

**Junior offensive lineman Jacob McLaurin** tries to break through freshman offensive lineman Adam Smith during preseason practice.

# Young offensive line steps up

**MIKE STUNSON**  
sports@chherald.com

Coach David Elson said Wednesday that it all starts up front.

“Any good, smart running back will tell you that you can’t (run the ball well) without his offensive line,” Elson said.

Western’s run game averaged four yards a carry on 428 carries a season ago.

Senior left guard Cody Hughes also feels that the offensive line is a major part of the team.

“Running backs make plays without an offensive line the (running) back won’t be able to get anywhere and have no success,” he said.

But with two starters, Hughes and sophomore Wes Jeffries, from last year’s offensive line out for spring practice with injuries, other linemen have had to emerge.

Elson said that redshirt freshmen Adam Smith, Luke Stansfield and Seth White have

all stepped up and have played really well at the linemen positions in spring practice.

Hughes said the team is trying to adjust through its injuries.

“With the offensive line being young and there being a new offense it’s hard to adjust fast,” Hughes said. “Especially with me and Wes (Jeffries) out. It’s hard to gel well with two players out.”

Walter Wells is the new offensive coordinator, but he still holds his responsibilities as offensive line coach. He is changing the offensive around a little bit, implementing more plays with the quarterback lined up underneath the center.

“When you get under center you get a chance to come off the ball more and put your hand in the dirt, put some weight on it, and get under the chins (of the defense),” Wells said.

Both Wells and Hughes said Western will also be running more plays with two tight ends next year.

“It expands the edge and

gives you a little more running lanes and gives us a more balanced attack,” Wells said.

Also noted by both Hughes and Wells was that one of the keys for spring is to mature and get closer.

“All five guys need to play as one because if one guy messes up then the defense can stop the offense for no gain or a loss,” Wells said.

Western will have a young offensive line this year, but Elson still has high hopes for them.

“I think we have developed some good depth — it’s going to be a young group but it could be a strong force,” Elson said.

So far Wells is pleased with the offense as far as picking up schemes and blocks but still found some holes.

“I am displeased with the penalties we’ve had with the snap count,” Wells said.

Western will resume practice Friday with its second scrimmage at 12:45 p.m. Saturday.

# TEAGUE

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

The rest of the pitching staff has combined to allow 22 of 43 inherited runs to score, but Teague said a number of factors may determine how many runners are able to advance.

“Maybe the situation occurs, or maybe we’re more fortunate than other guys,” he said. “We’re going to go out there every time and give it our best and try to succeed.”

Though Teague, Krueger and Paxton have provided a steady presence on the mound for much of the season, the Toppers (25-10) fell 7-4 at

Austin Peay on Tuesday night. Western’s pitchers allowed 12 walks, which Finwood said was the deciding factor in the game.

“That’s the whole story right there,” he said. “We don’t walk 12 guys, we probably win.”

The Governors also struggled from the pitching mound, walking six batters, hitting three with pitches and allowing a run to score on a balk.

But Western was unable to capitalize, leaving 12 runners on base, including an inning-ending pop-up by senior right fielder Chad Cregar with the bases loaded.

“We’ve had great focus, and I think in some of the midweek games we lose that focus,” Cregar said. “One of our goals is to get an automatic bid (to

the NCAA tournament), and we’ve got to get focused like we do when we’re playing a weekend series.”

Though the Toppers have only lost one of seven weekend series this season, they are 5-7 in midweek games.

Finwood said that Western has been able to rely on timely hitting for much of the season, but that wasn’t the case on Tuesday.

“It’s not how many hits you get, it’s when you get them,” he said. “It’s just the breaks of the game, which is why you play so many games. It wasn’t our night.”

The Toppers will travel to take on Arkansas-Little Rock in a three-game series beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday.

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# SPORTS

Thursday, April 16, 2009  
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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### Western inks two on first day

ANDREW ROBINSON  
[sports@chherald.com](mailto:sports@chherald.com)

Western men's basketball team added two more signees on Wednesday afternoon.

Six-foot, five-inch, 230-pound guard Terrence Boyd from San Diego, Calif., and six-foot, eight-inch, 225-pound forward David Laury from Newark, N.J., both sent their signed National Letters of Intent to Western yesterday.

"Boyd can probably play any position on the floor," coach Ken McDonald said. "He has an incredible will to compete and is a hard-willed kid."

Laury averaged 22 points and 12 rebounds a game in his senior year of high school.

The signings ended about a 48-hour period in which Laury's high school coach, Vincent Robinson, told the Bowling Green Daily News that Laury was signing with Morehead State. There have also been reports that Boyd's most recent SAT is being investigated by SAT officials.

McDonald said that he didn't know much about Boyd's situation, but said he has seen this situation before and that SAT officials always investigate students whose scores increase at least 100 points between two tests.

McDonald also added that they both have to finish strong academically.

"I think they're both going to be OK," McDonald said. "But there's not a whole lot of room for error. They know that and I think they've got challenging situations academically but they're working hard and doing what they need to do."

McDonald said that Laury wasn't being himself the last couple days but thought once he relaxed he realized he wanted to be a Topper.

"There's not a lot of morals in our business," McDonald said. "Even when people are committed people are talking to them and at the end of the day David stayed strong with his commitment."

On the court, Boyd is a nationally ranked recruit by ESPNU, Rivals.com and Scout.com. However, he hasn't played high school basketball the last two seasons.

"There's no question he's talented," Scout.com National Recruiting Analyst Evan Daniels said. "He's a really athletic, strong wing that's a really tough kid. But if you don't have your academics in order, you can't bring anything to the table. If WKU does get him, he's a player that can make impact in Sun Belt (Conference)."

## BASEBALL

# Teague not timid



Senior left handed pitcher Evan Teague credits his athletic experiences on the football field and baseball diamond at Boyle County High School with boosting his confidence on the mound for the Hilltoppers.

### High school prepares south paw for college career

SARAH HYMAN  
[sports@chherald.com](mailto:sports@chherald.com)

Friday night lights prepared senior pitcher Evan Teague to become a key member of Western's bullpen.

Teague played in four Class AAA football state championships for Boyle County High School, winning three, and was a two-time all-conference pitcher with the baseball team.

He said his high school experiences have given him the confidence to play in big-game situations at Western.

"We were kind of a powerhouse in high school in football, so we always had big crowds, big games," he said. "When you're called on in a situation where there's large crowds, it kind of gives me the adrenaline to perform well."

This season, Teague has evolved from a "lefty specialist," only entering games to dispatch one or two hitters, into more of a setup pitcher, coach Chris Finwood said.

"Last year, Evan was basically a matchup guy," Finwood said. "He'd come in, get the job done and get out of there. Now, he's had to extend a little bit more because of our lack of depth, and he's done an excellent job."

Teague said that he was "timid" when he came to Western, but felt he had developed enough as a pitcher to talk to Finwood and pitching coach Matt Myers before the season about expanding his role on the staff.

"They gave me the opportunity and I've performed well, so I guess I've earned the ability to go longer innings," he said. "Coach Myers has told me my stuff is good enough to get anybody out, so I just go out there and try to blow it past people."

Teague, senior pitcher Ben Paxton and sophomore pitcher Garrie Krueger have provided Finwood with a solid bullpen presence, inheriting a total of 55 runners and only allowing 13 to score.

SEE **TEAGUE**, PAGE 13

## SOFTBALL

### Lady Toppers sweep doubleheader

RANDALL REARDEN  
[sports@chherald.com](mailto:sports@chherald.com)

NASHVILLE — After putting an emphasis on situational hitting, Western's softball team got a chance to put the practice into a game situation last night.

The Lady Toppers took a break from the Sun Belt Conference schedule to take on Tennessee State in a double header at the Tiger Softball Complex in Nashville last night, beating the Tigers 3-2 in game one and 9-0 in six innings in game two.

Coach Tyra Perry said that the

games were important to play.

"I think it's huge," Perry said. "We need this time to work on different strategies that we will use during the weekend against those Sun Belt teams. We talked a lot about hitting the ball on the ground and getting our bunts down. A lot of the runs that we had were runs that were executed."

The Lady Toppers benefited from nine runs on eight hits in game two. Junior first baseman Lindsey Antone hit a home run in the top of the second inning.

"We've been working a lot on our hitting," Antone said. "We put

together what we could in the first game. In the second game we just came out more confident and cleaner at-bats and it worked out for us."

In game one, Western struck early with a home run by junior right fielder Kelsey McCauley but was unable to keep Tennessee State out of the game. The Lady Toppers would give up two runs before rallying back in the top of the seventh inning.

Western hitters came through in the high pressure situation.

SEE **SWEEP**, PAGE 12



Junior infielder Brooke Reed slides into home to score a run against Tennessee State University sophomore catcher Jalisa Bradley.

GET **INSIDE** THE GAME

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD SPORTS BLOG  
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ALSO CHECK OUT

**BACKPAGE BANTER**  
Columnist Andrew Robinson shares his thoughts on Florida International's hiring of Isiah Thomas as the head men's basketball coach. **PAGE 12**

**FOOTBALL**  
Western's offensive line is looking to improve during spring drills. **PAGE 13**

**MEN'S RUGBY**

Western won both the Kentucky Collegiate Rugby Championship and the Bluegrass Bash this past weekend. The Toppers beat Louisville 41-5, they also beat Kentucky 17-15 and beat Eastern Kentucky 19-0.

The Toppers were able to overcome a 10-0 deficit against Kentucky before Matt Turley made a long conversion to give Western the win.